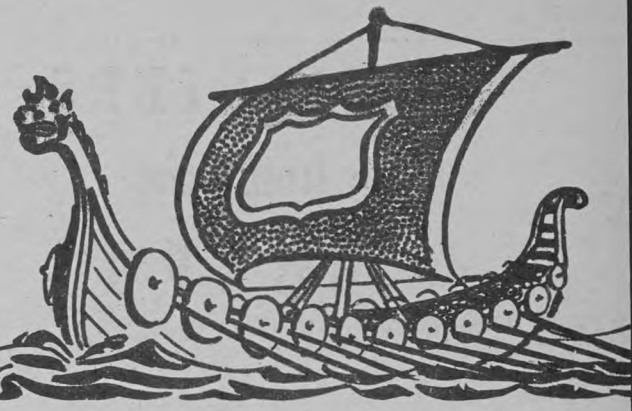




Scandinavian Centre News



PUBLISHED BY THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 9, NO. 4

Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department Ottawa, and for payment of postage in cash.

TEN PAGES

APRIL 1969

SELL-OUT TO COPENHAGEN FLIGHT

1969 A Banner Year in Denmark

Denmark is not only the oldest kingdom in the world to-day, it also has the world's oldest flag — the Dannebrog — red with a white cross. According to a legend it descended "as a sign from Heaven" on June 15th 1219, turning defeat into victory for the Danish crusaders under King Valdemar the Victorious, in the Baltic States.

The first evidence of the Dannebrog is found on the royal seal of the Scandinavian Union of 1397, where the Danish lion holds the crossed flag. A flag hung in the Maria Church at Lübeck probably captured from the Danes in 1427, was the earliest surviving Dannebrog; it is believed to have been destroyed in an air raid, during the Second World War. Through the years down to the seventeenth century it was believed that the original banner which fell from Heaven was in the custody of the king. The swallow-tailed model of Dannebrog (the "split flag") was known as early as the sixteenth century but is now used exclusively by the royal house and government establishments.

As the oldest flag in Scandinavia, the Dannebrog provided the pattern for the other Scandinavian flags. The Swedish blue with a yellow cross and the Norwegian red and white, like the Dannebrog but with an additional blue cross within the white one. The flag of Iceland is the Norwegian one with the colors reversed, Finland's white with a blue cross and the latest the one of Faroe Islands is also a crossed flag on the Scandinavian pattern. But the oldest, of them all, the Dannebrog, will celebrate its 750th anniversary on June 15th 1969, a date that for many years has been celebrated in Denmark as Valdemar's day, when small flags are sold in the streets for the Danes to wear.

And the Danes use every festive opportunity to fly their flag. Practically every private home has a flagpole, and it is used on birthdays and at family celebrations — on Sundays or simply to express their joy of living.

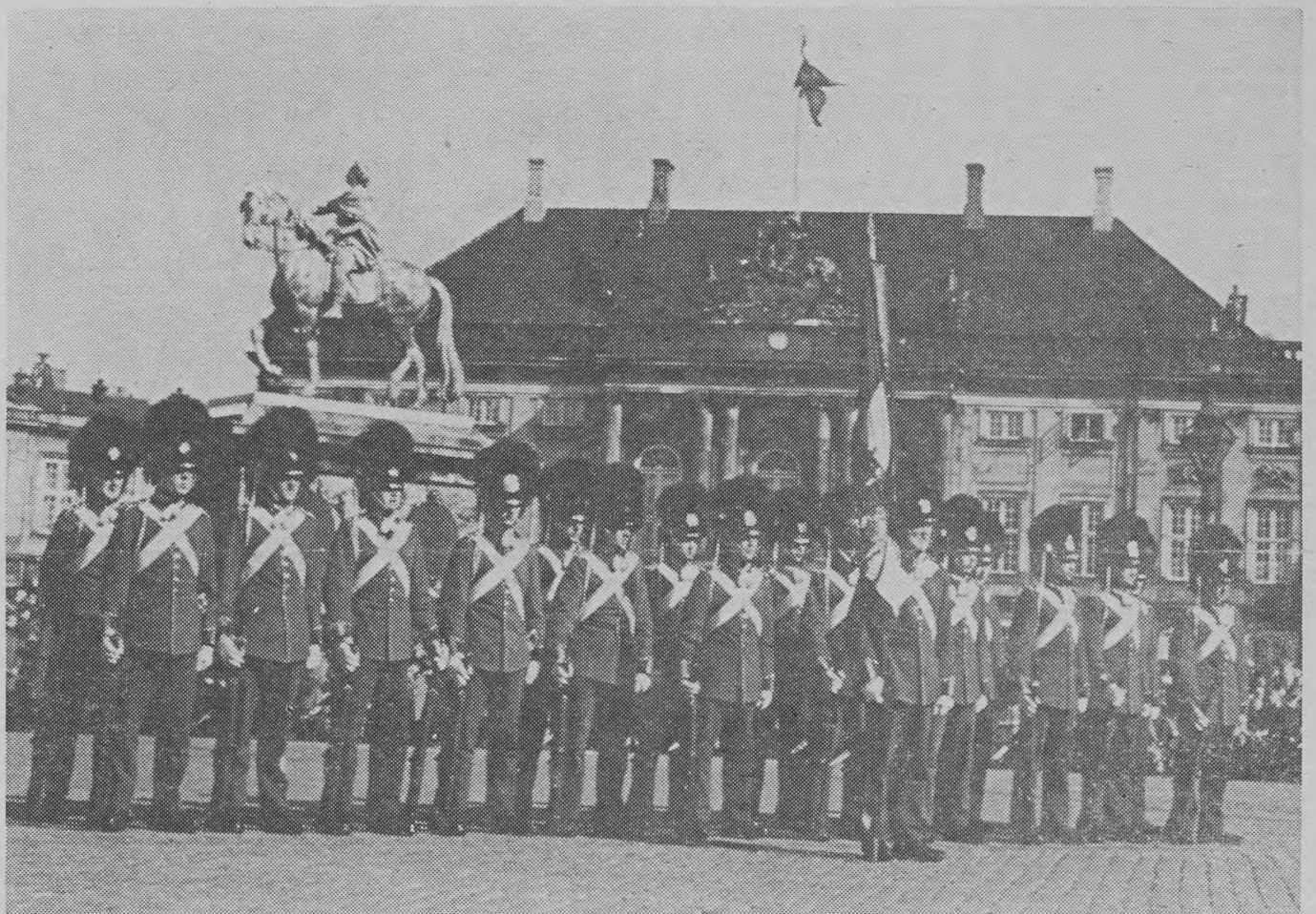
From the majestic bastion of Hamlet's castle at Elsinore, to the tiny ice cream parlors at the beach-resorts along Jutland's vacation coast, the Dannebrog has an important share in the festive mood

that visitors notice and enjoy when they travel through the Fairytale Country.

1969 will truly be a year of Dannebrog not only because of the 750 anniversary itself. At Roskilde 25 miles west of Copenhagen Dannebrog will be hoisted for the first above the new Viking Hall that will house the recently found 1000 years old vikingships, and for the 57th year in a row the Dannebrog and the Star Spangled Banner will wave side by side in the Rebild hills, Denmark, at the biggest July 4th celebrations in the world.

* * *

The Dane J. C. Ellehammer was the first man to fly in Europe and the first to build a helicopter. Fifty years ago Danes founded the first civil airways company in the world and helped found the International Air Traffic Association. Danish pioneer contributions to aviation include polar routes; SAS planes fly all round the world.



The colorful changing of the guard is seen outside Amalienborg Palace in Denmark

Rare Book Display Bonus For Visitors

An unadvertised bonus for visitors to Copenhagen this season is a rich display of treasures in the Danish Royal Library, including a wealth of Bible, Saga manuscripts, important documents in North American history and the rarest book in Denmark.

According to Scandinavian Airlines, the rarest item is one of which only a single copy was ever printed: A military manual struck off in 1578 for King Christian IV, whose private collection formed part of the Royal Library when it was founded in 1650.

It is flanked in the display by the first book ever printed in Denmark, a breviary dated 1482, and the first ever printed in Danish, a rhymed chronicle of 1485.

The Bible display includes the Dalby Book of the Gospels, written in 1050-1100, and the oldest book written in Scandinavia and still extant; a Greek Bible manuscript done

in Byzantium in the 10th century; and the Gutenberg Bible of 1455, the first book ever printed from movable types.

From its famous Judaica Collection, the Library is displaying manuscript Bibles written in France in 1301, Germany in 1290 and Spain in the 14th and 15th centuries. Also shown is an Italian Passover Haggada of 1560, which is the only known Hebrew block book.

An important New World item is the Algonquin Indian version of the Old and New Testaments, printed in Cambridge, Mass., in 1633. This is the first Bible ever printed outside of Europe and the first larger work from the first printing press in America.

Also of interest to Canadians is the manuscript diary of Jens Munk, who sought the Northwest Passage in 1619-20, came to grief in Hudson's Bay, and made his way back to Bergen, Norway, with the two

survivors of his 64-man crew.

For Scandinavian enthusiasts, the Library is showing the Flateyrbok, written by two Icelandic priests in 1387-94. It contains the sagas of Erik the Red, who went to Greenland, and his son Erik, who reached Labrador and Newfoundland.

With it is the Aeldre Edda, a vellum manuscript of about 1270 from Iceland, which is the only complete copy in existence of the old Norse religious and heroic poems.

A special Copenhagen treat, of course, is a first edition of 1835 of Hans Christian Andersen's "Eventyr" — the famous fairy tales.

The Royal Library is in the heart of Copenhagen. It is open from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Visits to special collections can be arranged on the spot.

SPLINTERS from the BOARD

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY FOR CENTRE

Peter Johnson and Bill Halldorson are making big plans for the Centre's fifth anniversary. The dance, to be called the Shareholder's Anniversary Ball will be held on June 20th. Mark your calendar now and make it a point to attend. It promises to be like our New Year's Eve Frolic, except that the price will be lower. Smorgasbord banquet, prizes, dancing and refreshments will round out the celebration.

DIRECTORS ASSIGNED DUTIES FOR 1969

An organizational meeting of the board was held in the Centre on Tuesday, March 3rd, 1969. The offices are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| President | Paul Karvonen |
| Vice-President | Ellsworth Halberg |
| Secretary | S. I. (May) Rushton |
| Treasurer | Len Petersson |
| Charter Flights | Esko Salo |
| Cultural Activities | Claus Jacobsen |
| Planning | Entire Board |
| Centre Operation | W. G. Halldorson |
| Klondike Float | Clarence Lindquist |
| Ladies Committee | May Rushton |
| Scandinavian Day | Matti Lehtiniemi |
| Anniversary Dance | Peter Johnson |
| Klondike Dance | Peter Johnson |
| Fall Dance | Peter Johnson |
| New Year's Eve Dance | Peter Johnson |
| Share Selling | S. A. Sorenson |
| Scandapades | Ellsworth Halberg |
| Recreation | Carsten Carlsen |
| Scandinavian News | G. C. Thorvaldson |
| Publicity | G. C. Thorvaldson |

Matti Lehtiniemi will be assisted on Scandinavian Day by Esko Salo. Peter Johnson will be assisted by Bill Halldorson for the dances. Ellsworth Halberg's assistant for Scandapades will be Clarence Lindquist.

OF INTEREST TO OUR READERS

This is the final installment of 'The Vikings of Amisk' by Esther Mellemstrand which we hope has provided insight into pioneer days in Alberta. Mrs. Mellemstrand writes with humor and understanding of the pioneers trials and tribulations. It is our hope that she will continue to contribute to our reading enjoyment.

This month our book review has been done by Miss Lyndel Bjorgum, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Bjorgum. Lyndel has reviewed Kon-tiki - Across the Pacific by raft by Thor Heyerdahl. A most exciting, true-life adventure which we hope you will read after Lyndel's article has whet your imagination. Young Miss Bjorgum is 15 years old and is a Sea Ranger with the crew S.R.S.-Ojibwa-Edmonton. To obtain her Gold Cord, Lyndel had to do research on a country and for apparent reasons chose Norway. Her Sea Ranger leader, Mrs. Betty Redford, suggested she read Kon-tiki as it's about Norwegians and also takes place mainly on the sea. Thank you so much for sharing this amazing adventure story with us, Lyndel.

COFFEE PARTY

The Culture Committee of the Scandinavian Centre is sponsoring a coffee party at the Centre on Sunday, April 13th, to be hosted by the Icelandic Society of Edmonton. Drop in for coffee and entertainment. There will be a silver collection and all proceeds will be used for cultural development at the Centre. See the ad in the Bulletin Board.

FINNISH SOCIETY



Mrs. Lena Salminen wishes to thank all her friends for the lovely gifts received at a baby shower held recently in her honor, at the home of Mrs. Tauno Salomaa. A special thanks goes to Mrs. T. Salomaa and Mrs. T. Leino who shared the duties of hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Onni Virtanen had the pleasure of a visit from their daughter Mrs. Kathy Arsenault (Aija) and grand-daughter Liisa, who are now residing in Toronto.

Mrs. Maija Utunen was the hostess at the ladies sewing circle on Monday, March the 17th.

The next meeting of the Sewing Circle will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. Kit, 9643 - 109 Ave., April 18th at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Friends Bid Farewell

Mrs. Thora Orr will soon be leaving Edmonton to make her home in Haney, B.C. Thora has been a very active member of the Ladies Auxiliary and the Saga Singers. She will be missed by the Icelandic community and her many friends.

Farewell parties in her honour were held by The Saga Singers at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Odson and the presentation of a lovely engraved silver coffee spoon.

The Ladies Auxiliary met at the home of Mrs. E. Valgardson for a coffee party in her honour. She was presented with a lovely gold filigree pin with two set-in pearls and a gayly decorated cake with an inscription reading "With tokens of friendship and affectionate appreciation" (translated from Icelandic).

Others entertaining in her honour were Mrs. G. Thorvaldson. Mrs. H. Sumarladason.

Lovely Denmark Has Much To Offer Tourists in '69

Denmark is preparing itself for another record tourist year, and the Danes certainly offer plenty of exciting events and new attractions for all ages and tastes in 1969.

In the early Fall, (Sept. 6th to 14th) the new successful Aarhus Festival Week in Jutland, will be held, when the fascinating Old Town Open Air Museum will be brought to life and Ballet and Opera events will be featured with top class concerts and art exhibitions.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE GOOD FOOD

Well, Denmark is the place any year. But for 1969 the delightful Denmark Luncheons, specially arranged for visitors from abroad, will add an extra weekly luncheon, so it now will take place every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Royal Hotel from June 23rd to September 19th and will acquaint the participants with Danish delicacies, table settings and fur fashions.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE MODERN COMFORT

Another de luxe hotel will be added this Spring to the already numerous delightful hotels in the Fairytale Country.

The "Hvide Hus" hotel at Aalborg, the lively city in Northern Jutland, will open in May. It is only 30 minutes away from Rebild National Park, where Denmark celebrates United States Independence Day every year on July 4th.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE ECONOMY TRAVEL

A new modern economy hotel, the Bel Air, will open April 15th near Kastrup Airport, Copenhagen (about 30 minutes from the city) price \$8.00 for double room w/-shower. No restaurant but modern cafeteria.

A great new thing in 1969 will be Denmark's hotel check system, which offers possibilities for travelling through the Fairytale Country using good hotels at a reasonable price level, all the way, ideal for family travel. The price \$7.35 per person, double occupancy, includes room, breakfast, lunch or dinner, service and tax.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO VACATION ON A FARM

There is an interesting new attraction, which will appeal to visitors from all over the world: Now you can spend a week on a real Danish farm. Follow the life of the farmer, from the cock-a-doodle-doo in the morning to the goodnight visit with the streamlined Danish pigs in the evening and take excursions in the Fairytale country during the day. Room and full board is \$5.00 and \$4.00 for demi-pension. Don't expect wall to wall carpeting in your bedroom and soft music in the background. Everything is down to earth, but you'll have a good bed, good food and good fun. Arrangements can be made through the local tourist offices in the towns of Viborg, Kolding, Ringe or Horsens. What an ideal fulfilled way of family vacationing.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE ROMANTIC SURROUNDINGS

Denmark's Fairytale Country has been specially loved for its romantic towns with cobblestoned streets and thatch roofed whitewashed houses like Ebeltoft, Mariager and others.

Today, thanks to new modern airports, these towns can be reached in a little more than an hour's

time from Copenhagen. A number of "picturesque Jutland" tours will be introduced this year where the visitors fly by SAS to one of the local airports, rent a car there, enjoy touring the delightful countryside and towns and then back to the same or to a different airport for quick return to Copenhagen.

On such a tour you should spend a night or two either in one of the new attractive country-hotels or at one of the old Fairytale Inns, which serve excellent Danish food at reasonable prices, in old historic settings.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE ISLAND HOPPING

A brand new 2 day escorted tour "The Danish Isles" will be introduced in 1969, leaving Copenhagen every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from May 14th to Sept. 15th. It will visit the 8 most interesting islands out of Denmark's 482, and include visits to Holmegaard Glassworks, Aalholm Veteran Car Museum, the romantic island of Aero with the bottled ship museum, Egeskov Park on Funen and Hans Christian Andersen's childhood home in Odense.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HISTORY

In 1962 five Viking ships were found on the bottom of the Fjord of Roskilde, 28 miles west of Copenhagen. After an extensive archaeological accomplishment these 1000 year old ships have been brought to the surface and will be restored in a Vikingship Hall at Roskilde which will open to the public in May 1969. Another interesting new museum will open around the same time at Hamlet's town of Elsinore, the new Technical Museum filled with fascinating machines and technical wonders of the past.

FOR TRAVELERS WHO LOVE TO BE CURIOUS

People who are interested in adding a new dimension to their travel abroad, will love the possibilities Denmark offers to join short courses of special subjects of international interest, such as Danish Design, Education in Scandinavia, Social Denmark, etc. For the first time there will even be a special summer school in Denmark for young Americans from June 27th to August 9th. It will be sponsored by Washburn University of Topeka, Kansas.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO BE ADVENTUROUS

Greenland is an experience in a class by itself. This Danish arctic island offers unequalled fishing possibilities and scenery galore.

It can be reached by chartered SAS flights from Copenhagen, from June 3rd to September 23rd. Facilities in Greenland are still very limited, but everybody agrees - it is the tourist country of the future.

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE THEMSELVES

Shopping in Copenhagen is it. You'll be overwhelmed when you see the selection of beautiful modern Danish design from furniture, porcelain and silver to embroideries and Danish fur. Shopping in Copenhagen has become a popular sport. You'll love yourself still more for being that kind of a sportsman!

The Danish National Travel Office in Scandinavia House, 505 Fifth Avenue, New York will be happy to be of service with free literature and information.

Scandinavian Centre News

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Printed Monthly for the Scandinavian Centre News by Willis Printing & Lithographing Co. Ltd., Edmonton 17, Alberta.

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Edmonton Alberta

Amiel Kvarnberg
Thorsby Alberta

Gus Hansen
Edmonton Alberta

COMMENTS - - -

Dear Editor:

I was prompted to write because of an article that Mr. S. A. Sorenson wrote in the Edmonton Journal not long ago about the bi-lingual and bi-cultural problem that we are faced with today. I am 100% in favour with his views. I thank God that we have men like our Premier Mr. Strom, the former premier Mr. Manning, Mr. Sorenson and others who will stand up to what is right so this situation will not get out of hand.

Being a family man with young children, I often think of it as the problems parents are faced with when bringing them up. Most of us are not the people that "step on them" when ever they are naughty but as time goes on they get worse and worse till at last we have to put our foot down before it gets out of hand. Then we realize that we should have done this in the first place.

I think it's time we put our foot down on all the unnecessary expense and inconvenience placed on the people, to be forced to do something which they don't want. Every one will agree that the Scandinavian people are one of the first ones to learn the language of the country they intend to live in. They realize that a country can't be run efficiently if its not under one language. They still want to keep their identity and culture among themselves or for others if it will serve some useful purpose but not to force it on anyone.

I was born here in Alberta but I'm still proud of my Norwegian background. My folks taught me the language when I was young and I try to teach it to my children. I don't expect anyone to cater to my language when ever I want to do any business, government or otherwise.

I'm not in favour of my children learning a second language in school until they are in high school. I think more time should be given on subjects that they will use in life such as math., biology, etc. If they want to take another language in high school it should be their choice as they may want to be an ambassador to another country or a missionary.

I think it's ridiculous that we have to go to extra expense in our own country to hire interpreters for our government officials so they can conduct our affairs.

I enjoy receiving the paper. I think it's good to have these history stories about the early Scandinavian pioneers. We are proud of them as we are with Leif Erickson, the first white man to set foot on the American continent.

Yours very truly,
Alvin Vigen,
Castor, Alta.

Thank You - - -

Mrs. Mina McDonald wishes to express a very sincere Thank You to the Sons of Norway Lodge for the beautiful clock presented to her for her birthday.

The presentation was made by the President Mr. Joe Lineham. Also, I am deeply grateful to Mrs. Selma Sorenson for the excellent coverage of my birthday party which was held at the home of Byrnes and Crystal Fleuty. Thanks a lot, Selma.

Mina McDonald.

Accordionists Brought Together At Scandapades '68



Aino Jensen and Edwin Erickson

Aino L. Jensen was born May 6, 1943 in Hornbaek, a small fishing village on the northern coast of the province of Sjælland in Denmark. It was there that he lived until immigrating to Canada in February of 1957, together with his father, Verner Jensen, his mother, Elvi (from Ystad in Sweden) and three brothers, Leif, Rennie, and Garth. Aino owns a bakery business in Tofield with his father. He is married and his wife Jacqueline, and he have two sons. He has been playing chromatic accordion for eleven years.

Edwin F. Erickson was born April 20, 1950 in Edmonton, Alberta, his grandfather having immigrated to the Drayton Valley area from Solleftea, Angermanland, Sweden in 1909. He has been studying chromatic accordion for a little over three years, some of which time was spent visiting Scandinavia in the summer of 1967, together with his father, Arvet, his mother, Melba, and small brother, Erick. Edwin is single and owns a music store and school in Drayton Valley.

Aino and Edwin have been playing together since June of last year, after having met, significantly enough, at rehearsals for Scandapades, 1968.

They pride themselves in specializing in old-time Scandinavian music and it is their intention to preserve their Scandinavian heritage in this musical form to the best of their ability. In fact, they have already begun to weld the old Scandinavian melodies into the heart of this country through playing for old-time dances, in lounges and taverns and for numerous other functions all over north-central Alberta. Together with their orchestra, the Norsemen, they also play every Saturday morning on the Scandinavian program, radio CFCW, dial 790.

They have several of their own compositions, which have been recently copyrighted and one of these, which is called "Sollefteavalser" is hoped to be featured on their first single recording by the Arc label in the very near future.

NORDSTJARNAN NEWS

Four rinks from Buford Lodge and four from Nordstjarnan enjoyed another day of curling at Usona on February 22. First prize was captured by Reino Havanka's rink which included Bill Flinkman, John Berglin, Lydia Holmlund. Second prize went to Gus Tabler's rink including Wilma Stone, Dave Ogren, and George Sjogren. Many thanks to the committee which organized this day.

Thirty-one members of our Lodge motored to Calmar on March 1 to attend the Banquet and Dance following the District Curling Playoffs. We would like to extend a hearty vote of thanks to Buford Lodge for hosting the annual event this year. Two rinks, with skips Gus Tabler and Ed Palechek, were entered. They were not fortunate in ranking near the top but a happy time was had by all. Congratulations to the winning rink skipped by Charlie Rautio of Edmonton. The Buford Grandmas placed a close second with a difference of one point.

Chairman John Holmlund presided at our March meeting which was held at the home of Brother

John Remin. There was a discussion regarding the approval of the recently-prepared program for 1969. A Committee was appointed to take charge of selecting teams to be entered in the Provincial Bowling Tournament to be held in Calgary on April 19. An hour of visitation including lunch followed the meeting. See you at the home of Brother Pete Nelson on April 5 for the next meeting. There is no meeting scheduled for May.

Mrs. Elvira Anderson is at present visiting her granddaughter in Calgary. She anticipates staying for the month of March, during which time granddaughter Bev and husband, Dave Gerlach, will travel to Scotland. Dave is a member of the well-known Ron Northcott rink which will compete in the championship curling.

After spending several weeks in an Edmonton hospital and having undergone surgery, Mrs. Rose Skjersven is expected to arrive home March 13. Get well wishes are extended to Rose and also to other members who have been hospitalized or suffering illness at home.

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Good Friday April 4th 11 a.m. English service. Holy Communion

Easter Sunday April 6th 11 am. Danish service.

Sunday April 13th 11 a.m. English service.

Sunday April 20th 11 am. Danish service

Sunday April 27th 11 am. English service.

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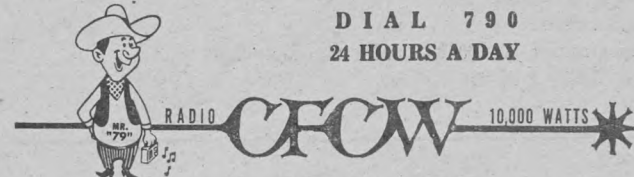
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VASA LODGE SKANDIA

The regular monthly meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia was held Saturday, March 1, at 7:00 p.m. in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre.

Emil Johnson was reported as being better now, but still under doctor's care. Bud Holmgren had an accident at work, and was off for a few days, but is back to normal now. Pat Johnson is out of the hospital, but is still under doctor's care.

The 1969 Land Committee will have a new look this year, two women have been added to it. The members are chairman Ed Bergquist, secretary Willard Modin, treasurer Eric Pierre, Andy Ogren, Helge Erickson, Emil Weiss, Mary Pearson, and Betty Pearson.

The auditors for 1969 were also elected. They are chairman Sigurd Franzen, Erv. Kurtz, Winnie Pearson, and alternate Ruth Gilles.

Greetings from Lodge Kiruna in Sweden were read by Betty Pearson. They sent greetings and thanks to all for the book, Color of Canada. Their tenth anniversary was celebrated in February, and they had had greetings from Lynne Gemyroy.

A most delicious lunch was donated and served by the "Merry Widows" of Vasa. A beautiful birthday cake was also present to honor those who have had birthdays in December, January and February. Thanks to our birthday committee, Rita Pearson, Linda Samuelson, and Winnie Pearson for looking after the event.

Following lunch, the Merry Widows entertained. Mary Pearson read the poem, Let's Be Kind, the entire group consisting of Svea Erickson, Pearl Hober, Ruth Gilles, Hanna Sand, Edith Valens, Alma Samuelson, Emma Nelson, Hulda Rautio, Ragnhild Johnson, and Milda Backstrom sang two Swedish songs. Clara Dalen from Grande Prairie, a relative of Hanna Sand, joined the group in their songs. Betty Pearson, although she is not a widow, was also helping with the program. She was Master of Ceremonies, orator, and probably composer of a poetic tribute to certain Vasa bachelors and widowers. A most unusual hat show was also featured, with beautiful hats, jewelry, and handbags made entirely by the widows from odds and ends found in the home. You had to see it to believe the imagination that went into those creations. Almas Samuelson and Svea Erickson performed a humorous skit, and the whole group got together to sing their own version of the Merry Widow Waltz for a finale. Gifts were presented to Betty Pearson for her help in organizing the evening, and to the pianist Stanley Calder.

The next meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia will be held Saturday, April 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre. There will be initiation of new members, and a wine tasting party following the meeting hosted by Andy and Ivy Ogren.

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 12 — The Ladies Auxiliary will hold their monthly meeting, Saturday, April 12, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Pearson, 13208 - 135 St.

APRIL 19 — Valborg Celebrations to be held in the Viking Room of the Scandinavian Centre. For additional information phone hosts Gust and Aili Gidlof at 469-2711.

Also on the 19, is the District Bowling Roll-off hosted this year by Branting Lodge in Calgary.

APRIL 20 — The Children's Club will meet Sunday, April 20 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Scandinavian Centre.

VASA GLIMPSES

It was nice to see Harold and Lulu Lundgren at the March meeting. They, with their daughter Lisa, were visiting in Edmonton recently. Their new address in Saskatoon is 71 St. Lawrence Crescent, and their new phone number is 242-9221.

* * *

Another address change is for Helge and Ester Erickson who moved recently to 10616 - 135 St. Their new phone number is 482-4581.

* * *

Anna Rosinski (Bergquist) and family have moved to Seattle.

* * *

Congratulations to Wayne Modin who has won a trip to Hawaii for his selling ability. He and Audrey leave in late March for a week of fun in the sun.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Nyroos spent a weekend in Calgary recently.

* * *

Congratulations to the Edmonton Curlers who represented us at the District Curling Spiel held in Calgary, March 1. First place was won by Charlie Rautio's team which was made up of third Nick Semeniuk, second Ken Banks, and lead James Johnson.

* * *

A surprise fiftieth birthday party was held March 8 for Bert Watson. A large number of friends were on hand to see Bert presented with a valet chair, and an electric shoe polisher. Be no excuse for dirty cowboy boots now!

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WRITE TO —

Editor, Scandinavian Centre News
6012 - 101A Avenue,
Edmonton 80, Alta.

Book Review**KON-TIKI**

Across the Pacific by raft
by Thor Heyerdahl

What a story! Can you imagine yourself one of six men on a raft sailing across the Pacific? Thor Heyerdahl, a Norwegian, and five other men — four Norwegians and a Swede attempted this feat, beginning April 27, 1947. The object was to prove that it was possible for people of Polynesia to have a Peruvian ancestry.

It was Thor Heyerdahl's theory that brought the whole happening about. It was not hard for him to find companions on such a fantastic adventure. A great number of other problems arose though.

Getting the giant forty-five foot balsa logs from the forests of Ecuador, lashing, securing them to build a raft supposedly similar to those of the ancient Indians. No moral support was offered by other sailors or experienced seamen; most believed that they would not last more than a day or a week at the most. The men did reach the Pacific and found that they were not alone on the rough waters, schools of pilot fish and dolphins surrounded the raft; flying fish landed on board each morning to be served for breakfast. The most dangerous of their companions were the sharks which they later learned to catch with their bare hands. In fact, one morning they were visited by a gigantic whale shark (the largest fish in the world) about fifty feet long with exceedingly large jaws. Also on several occasions they were threatened by barging whales. Each man on the expedition was kept busy using their talent in such areas as scientific research, navigation, weather reports and radio communication. One of the most exciting parts of the book was when Herman, the navigator, discovered that they would be unable to land if they did reach the Pacific Islands (Polynesia). Did these six men live through the expedition and reach the Pacific Islands? Could they land if and when they did arrive?

Published by Rand McNally and Company, 296 pages.

Lyndel Bjorgum.

SEA ROUTES TO POLYNESIA

— American Indians and Early Asians in the Pacific, by Thor Heyerdahl. With Editorial Notes by Karl Jettmar, Ph.D., Professor of Ethnology, University of Heidelberg, and Foreword by Hans W. von Ahlmann, Ph.D., former President of the International Geographical Union. This book contains a collection of papers and addresses which the Norwegian scientist-explorer Thor Heyerdahl, of "Kon-Tiki" and "Aku-Aku" fame, delivered before international scientific societies from 1951 to 1964. These essays present in a readable and lucid form the scientific aims and the most important discoveries made by Heyerdahl and his colleagues on the Kon-Tiki voyage by balsa raft across the South Pacific and on the scientific expedition to Easter Island. (24 illustrations) (Seven maps) (Notes, Bibliography, Index) (232 pp.) Rand McNally and Company (\$5.95).

WEDDING BELLS

PETTIGREW-HALLDORSON

Miss Patricia Louise Halldorson made a charming picture of a lovely bride as she walked up the aisle of the Strathcona Presbyterian Church on the arm of her father, Mr. Harold Halldorson, Saturday afternoon, March 8th. The Rev. I. P. MacSween performed the ceremony uniting her in marriage to Mr. Donald James Pettigrew, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Pettigrew of Edmonton. Mr. Chris Carlyle attended the groom and Mrs. David Pettigrew, as matron-of-honor, was dressed in a floor-length gown of American Beauty rose velvet with floral band for her head piece.

The bride's dress was of white brocaded satin, floor length, with a long train, bordered with decorative gaiteri lace. Her illusion veil was centred by flowers and pearls. She wore a gift from the groom, a single strand of pearls, and carried a heart-shaped bouquet of baby roses.

The mother of the bride, Mrs. Harold Halldorson, wore a poppy pink, woven wool suit with a rose corsage and her hat, in matching shade, was a close-fitting bonnet with floral trim. Mrs. Pettigrew, mother of the groom, wore a blue double knit suit of silk beautifully adorned with beaded patterns. Her matching hat was a profusion of flowers.

The guests were ushered to their seats by Mr. Jerry Halldorson and Mr. Doug Pettigrew.

The reception was held in the Braemar Lounge of the Royal Glenora Club where Mr. David Pettigrew acted as master-of-ceremonies, introducing the guests at the head table and generally regaling the gathering with appropriate conversation. The toast to the bride was proposed by Mr. Arthur Gregg, a long-time friend of the family. The groom replied with some well-chosen words and doing so, paid tribute to the parents for all the years past which led to this happy day. Toasts were proposed to the parents and the two grandmothers present, Mrs. F. A. Sitter of Saskatoon and Mrs. Freeze of Edmonton.

For travelling the bride chose a sunshine yellow, leather coat with detachable fur collar, complemented by a leather hat of the same shade. The bride's cousin, young Miss Lonna Sitter of Saskatoon, caught the bridal bouquet just prior to the departure of the happy, young couple, for the International Airport where they left for points west. On their return they will take up residence in a new apartment on 81 Ave. and 109 St.

GREENHAM-HAWES

Mount Zion Lutheran Church was the scene of the wedding of Thorey Hawes to Mr. Les Greenham on February 15th. Reverend Jorgenson performed the marriage ceremony.

Mrs. Clara Johnson was matron-of-honor and Mr. Steini Johnson attended the groom.

The reception and dinner were held at the Scandinavian Centre. Thorey's sister, Lillian, from Winnipeg attended the wedding. The Icelandic Society send their hearty congratulations and best wishes to this lovely couple.

SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT



COMING EVENTS

APRIL 12 — International Night — Nordic Room.

MAY 4 — Initiation Night with Supreme President Hilmen E. Kjolrie.

* * *

On Sunday, May 4th, the Supreme President of the Sons of Norway, Hilmen E. Kjolrie and his wife, Florence, of California will be in Edmonton. The supreme president will conduct the initiation of new lodge members on this occasion.

* * *

The Junior Lodge held their monthly meeting on March 12th. Arrangements were made for a rummage sale at the Jasper Place Legion hall on March 29th and posters were made for the sale. Lunch was served by Brenda Bruce, the Allen brothers and Maureen Bishop.

* * *

The Dancers of the Midnight Sun performed for the patients at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in February.

* * *

Eva and Allan Berg have just returned from a lovely trip which took them through Vancouver, Portland, Oregon and Montana.

* * *

While on an outing at Alberta Beach with the Halberg family on March 9th, Knut Svidal wrenched his shoulder while experimenting in the old Norwegian art of skiing. His doctor says he should recover within six weeks. Better Luck next time, Knut!

At a meeting and program of B'nai B'rith in the Jewish Synagogue during Brotherhood Week, dancers Penny and Ian Iverson, Warren Clark, Bonny Stead, Brenda Bruce and Ray Boe performed Norwegian dances and Irene Hovde, accompanied by Warren Clark and Carl Elgstrand, sang Norwegian songs.

* * *

Orla and Sven Tychsen have had the pleasure of having her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Reg Smith from Saskatchewan for a short visit.

* * *

Njaal and Frances Anderson and family have returned to their home in Sarnia, Ontario. Njaal, the brother of Inge and Anders, had spent the past 2½ months working at the Imperial Oil Fertilizer Plant at Redwater.

* * *

We wish Louise Johnson a speedy recovery from her recent skiing mishap.

* * *

Gary Johnson and Lori Gould were united in marriage on February 22 at St. Andrews United Church. The happy couple spent their honeymoon in Montana skiing. Lodge Members wish them every happiness.

* * *

Mrs. Mina McDonald was pleasantly surprised for her birthday when her eldest daughter, Mrs. C. Burbee, accompanied by son, Herbert, arrived from Prince George, B.C., to participate in the festivities. Mrs. Burbee and Herbert also visited at the homes of her brothers and sister in Edmonton.

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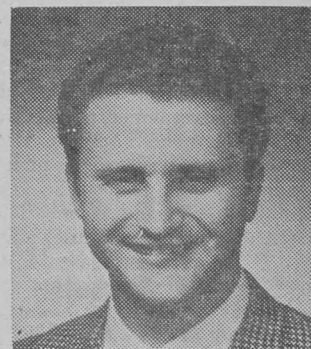
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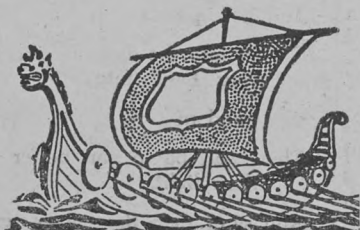
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THE VIKINGS OF AMISK

SHORT STORIES OF
OTHER NORSEMEN
By Esther Mellemstrand
8th Installment

Sharing Amisk's agricultural offerings were the Viking settlers north of town in the Pearson, Lowe and Pansy school districts.

In the O. A. Stratte family there were eight children. Like their friends the Johnson's, each member could play some musical instrument, so they too contributed much toward the entertainment in the district. A son-in-law Oscar Sampson matched this: his family also numbered eight. Ole Gustavson one, Anton Carlson three, Andrew Pearson three, Helgeson's four and Tom Lokken four — a nephew Pete Peterson also made his home there. Other Scandinavian musicians were: Ellsworth and Reynold Holmberg, Will Amundson, and Torsten Torsenson.

There were six stalwart bachelors in this district: Knute Olson, Nels Hedalen, Nels Anderson, Narve Olson, Fred Lindstrom and Axel Erickson. Axel Erickson is now married and is living in Amisk — the rest remained in single blessedness.

Fred Lindstrom was one of the first to homestead. He filed for land in 1905, and was fortunate in having horses, and also owned the first saddle. He had a good selection of machinery, so he did much to help the new settlers in getting a start on their new holdings. When he drove to Daysland for supplies, he would always include provisions for his neighbors. At one time a settler upset a load of grain in a slough — it was Fred's horses that pulled this precious cargo out of the mire. Luckily the grain was stored in sacks, therefore, it could be dried promptly when spread out on dry ground.

It was the offer of free land in Canada that prompted Narve Olson of Perley, Minnesota to head for Amisk in 1909. Here he built a sod shack five miles east of town. He wrote to his good friends the Hoiland brothers, Ole and Andrew, also Andrew Pearson. All had been neighbors in Perley. They too, liked the idea of "free" land. In 1910, each filed on a quarter section of virgin land. The following year arrangements were made for transporting their families and household goods from the States. These groups also stayed with Narve for he had built another shack beside his sod house. Beds were made on the floors of both huts — the men choosing the sod house.

In 1914, Narve sold his homestead land and bought a new holding one mile south of Amisk — a next-door neighbor to the Lindgren family. He lived there till 1950 when he retired to return to Perley, Minnesota. He will always be remembered by his friends as a good neighbor.

When Nels Anderson, also from Perley, Minnesota heard that Andrew Pearson has homesteading near Amisk in Alberta, he too decided to make his home there. Nels was the politician of the district — well read and well versed in the affairs of the farmer's Government of Alberta. If any of the policies of the Federal Government displeased him, he would promptly address his "beefs" directly to Ottawa. At one time he wrote to the White House, advising the U.S. president how to settle the "Affairs of State!" How proud he would be when he could show his friends that his replies were stamped with the official crests of the heads of State.

Nels was a faithful member of the

Amisk Swedish Church. His generous financial contributions helped much towards the building of it. Once a year he held "open-house" parties. It was then that all the ladies of the Aid Society would congregate to hold a "giant-sized" Ladies' Aid. He would hire a housekeeper to give his house a good scrubbing as well as to make dozens of cakes, several batches of doughnuts, several dishpans of sandwiches, plus a wash boiler full of coffee. Here too, how proud he would be when the president told him that his collection plate was always the biggest and best!

Nels kept all the copies of the Grain Growers Guide from 1913 until his death twenty five years later. A subscription to it in 1913 was just 50c, and since postage for a letter was only 03c, many letters were written to the Editor. The following is a quotation from a lady's letter:

Dear Sir,

I shall be glad indeed, when we women have a vote, for then we shall have added power to assist in the righting of the present day wrong.
Yours very faithfully,

Mrs. J. M. Elmwood.

In 1916, women could vote in provincial and municipal elections, excluding Quebec. In 1918 they could vote in all elections. In this same issue the editor quoted Bonar Law: "The man who never made a mistake, never made anything." Perhaps he meant this as a reply to the letter above!

Knute Olson came to Alberta from the United States in 1910. He lived with his friend Nels Hedalen in a sod house. With Nels's oxen and machinery the two men worked their land into nice fields for grain. Mrs. Andrew Hoiland would bake 10 loaves of bread and six dozen doughnuts for these bachelors every week. When Knute retired, he went back to the States and Nels passed away on his homestead.

Another settler in the Pearson district was P. I. Nelson — ex-school teacher from Fargo, N.D. He was a great believer in the philosophy of Socrates. Whenever I think of him, I'm reminded of the old saying that goes: "there's not much to see in a small town, but what you hear makes up for it!" On entering his home, invariably his first greeting would be "what's new?" He possessed an abundance of human interests wit to boot!

In order to secure their holdings, each homesteader had to make a promise to live on the land at least six months of every year. P. I., as he was affectionately known, would often spend a good portion of the year with his family in Fargo. When he left, he would tack a sign on his door reading "back in an hour". This information was for the benefit of the land inspector should he call in when passing through.

Typical of legendary school professors, he was extremely absent-minded. At one time he drove home from town — a distance of eight miles, and when he didn't get a greeting from his wife at the door of his home, only then did he remember he had taken her to town with him!

On measuring out a dividing fence line with his neighbor, he advised his friend that it would be a good idea to flip a yard stick

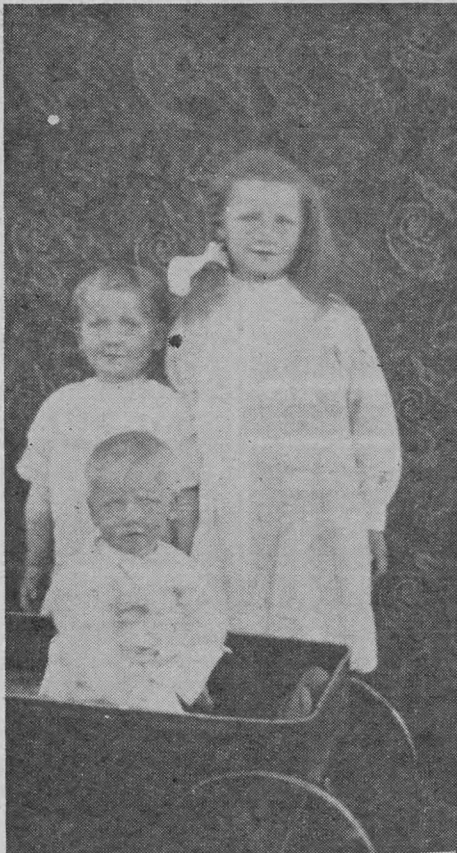
over the estimated length to assure its accuracy. In the process, the stick was expertly and carefully flipped, but when he was asked how many "flips" he had made, he merely scratched his head and remarked "I forgot to count."

P.I. was a good neighbor. Many new settlers were thankful that they could call on him when they needed help in writing a letter or solving a problem in mathematics. These problems, however, could never be solved unless it was over a cup of coffee!

The two Hoiland brothers, Ole and Andrew, came to Alberta from Perley, Minnesota. Ole had one son Hilmer. Andrew had three daughters — Bertha (Mrs. Albert Johnson),

were industrious. They raised good crops of grain every year on just a few acres, and since commercial fertilizers were unknown, "nature's own" was spread over the fields by hand. The competition then, was not a matter of who could afford the most fertilizer, but who could salvage the most. I can still see the potato patch with its thick layer of manure every spring.

In the late '20's a nephew, Ingvald Mellemstrand from Stavanger, Norway arrived to make his home at the Hoiland's. Cupid intervened however, for it is now over three decades since he and I made our vows to love, honor and obey. It wasn't easy for us either to establish a new home during the terrible



This is the first picture our author, Esther (Wallsten) Mellemstrand, has of herself. On the left is Esther, her sister Alma on the right and brother Adolph in the carriage.

Annie (Mrs. George Cederberg of Seattle) and Hannah (Mrs. Odean Peterson of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho) — one son, Ole, deceased. The wives of the two brothers did much to help their districts. Ole's wife Katrina boarded all the country school teachers for she was fortunate in having a house with an extra bedroom. Andrew's wife was a practical nurse and her skill was invaluable during the 'flu epidemic in 1918-19.

In those days being a photographer or being photographed constituted quite a pompous ceremony. Adults would be very patient and obliging when posing, for it took some time to adjust the black drapes over the camera. However, it was a frightening ordeal for small children when the operator crawled under the drapes. Mrs. O. A. Stratte was the only person in the community who owned and could operate one of these. Every one could not afford the luxury of a hand camera but fortunately Mrs. Hoiland had one of these, and she made sure that every interesting event was recorded. Therefore, I am indebted to her for having so many old time snapshots for illustration in this story.

Like all pioneers, the Hoilands

depression of the next era. We feel we are pioneers of the second generation for we carried on in much the same pattern as our parents.

Other young Scandinavian couples battling the same depression were: Agda and Roland Nelson, Johanna and Johan Oserud, Anna and Thorolf Peterson, Ebba and Pete Peterson, Edith and George Israelson, Signe and Ture Elmquist, Lillie and Sven Nelson, Lillian and George Stromquist, Inga and Pete Blomert, Alpha and Robert Johnson, Polly and Tryg Solberg, Mary and Adolph Wallsten, Ruth and Nels Anquist, Alice and Gunnar Paulson, Elsie and Peter Rud, Hildegard and Edwin Lunde, Hannah and Howard Solbak, Elida and Magnus Lehne, Ethel and Roy Anholt, Jennie Oswald Anholt and Naemi and Clarence Kile. Singles were: Fritz Svensson, Halgar and Fritz Nelson, Hilding, Carl and Edwin Elmquist, Hugo Solomonson, Justine and Tom Byrkelo, Tom Peterson, Martin Grondahl, Hilmer Hoiland, Axel Rud, Pete Anquist, Alvin and Thorvald Lokken.

This list makes an impressive addition to the Vikings of Amisk, but by persevering when the going was rough, all have contributed much toward the progress of the district.

In the Carbol families there were two pioneering grandmothers who were sisters — Grandma Carbol and Grandma Anquist. Six Carbols: Louis, Ole, Otto, and Wilfred, a sister, Mrs. Chris Rud. Later Mrs. Kristine Kile as well as a niece, Mrs. Ed Sandahl. Three Anquist boys: Nels, Pete and Carl and four children in the Louis Carbol family.

Ole Carbol and Mrs. Albin Erickson organized the first Sunday School class in Amisk. The members of the Swedish Ladies Aid arranged picnics every 24 of June — a Swedish holiday called "Midsommer's Dag" (Midsummer's Day). These were usually held at the Erickson home. In 1918, on a cold January day their neighbor Mrs. Olaf Hager made preparations for a Ladies Aid. She, the hostess wrote the minutes for the day — just two words "Ingen Kom" (nobody came)! On another occasion, Mrs. Nyberg recalls going to an Aid meeting in a buggy with her two children. They all got wet feet when fording a slough. The drive was a seven mile journey, and a thunderstorm arose, so that made them wet from top to bottom. To climax their discomfort, when they reached their destination, they found the meeting had been cancelled.

The first minister of the Pentecostal faith was a Rev. Mr. Holm — later, Mr. C. O. Nordin came by train to hold services in the homes. He would walk across the country to give spiritual guidance. Olga Johnson, a missionary from India would walk barefoot across the same trails; but soon discovered that the sharp, damp grass of Alberta was not very kind to bare feet.

Peter C. Rud left his native Norway for Minnesota in 1889. In 1900 he returned to Norway to be married. Here three sons were born: Axel, Peter and Chris.

On settling in Amisk, Mr. Rud found that the biggest hardship was getting his children to school. In winter it was very cold, and in summer, the huge mosquitos almost devoured them. These boys were in the class of students at Dalen that could not speak the English language.

In this, the final chapter of "The Vikings of Amisk", I want to thank the editor and staff of the Scandinavian Centre News for printing the stories of our forefathers. I'm thankful also, that I was born in the era where all babies were delivered head first into a cosy nest of newspapers. This impact must have shaped by destiny, for I still have my nose in the news! I've had pleasure compiling these memoirs, and we of the second generation, are proud to know that our people helped the other nationalities push back the curtains of this huge continent so many years ago. "God Bless all of Them!"

Let us therefore, dedicate to all, this verse quoted by the late King George VI in one of his Christmas broadcasts:

"I said to a man who stood at the Gate of the Year,

Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown,

And he replied,

Go out into the darkness and put your hand into

The hand of God,

That shall be to you better than light,

And safer than the known way."

DANIA DOINGS



We, the board of directors from "Dania," enjoyed seeing so many turn up for our Banquet and Dance and by the looks of things, we think everybody enjoyed themselves to the full.

* * *

On Friday, April 18th we will hold our Spring Dance and we will have open-faced sandwiches again, like we had in January and February, the only trouble we have HOW MANY WILL COME? How are we to know, how many sandwiches to have, if you like, just phone the secretary to let her know you are coming, then we would get an idea maybe. Phone 454-5438.

* * *

"BIKUBEN" will meet again on the third Monday of the months, April 21st at 8:00 p.m., 12424 - 141 Street. All ladies welcome.

* * *

WHITE HOUSE LODGE and MOTEL in Edgewater are known to many people. Now Mr. O. P. Nielsen has sold the business to Mr. and Mrs. Jakobsen and they would like to see you come up as usual. The Jakobsen's from Toronto have done a lot of work to the place since they took over last year. Let's make them feel welcome among us here in the west. Make a week-end trip to Radium Hot Springs, then stay at the White House Lodge. It's ideal place to pitch your tent or trailer too, and the best place for your children to be safe when playing. See the ad in this paper. I am sure you will find the new owners as pleasant and friendly as O. P. and Grethe before them. Phone for reservation direct 1-604-347-9403.

* * *

Mrs. Thora Krog celebrated her birthday by inviting 60 of her friends to a lovely party in the DANIA Room at the Centre, all had a wonderful time. There were no less than 3 people that celebrated their birthday the same day. Friends came from Calgary and Camrose too.

* * *

Remember the last Whistdrive of this season on April 15th at 8:00 p.m. This is the night where some lucky person will win a trophy for being the one with the highest score through the season, so come and enjoy a nice social evening.

* * *

If you have any news items you would like to see under "DANIA" then phone or send it in to your correspondent, Mrs. Vera Nielsen, and she will see that it gets into the paper.

* * *

The membership draw for \$10.00 was John Andersen, 11255 - 117 Str. (Bow Island) but as he was not there, the next draw on April 18th will be for \$15.00.

Doctor: "I don't like the way your husband looks."

Wife: "Listen, if you want to get personal about it, You're not exactly handsome yourself."

* * *

Question: "What is the quickest way to disperse a large crowd?"

Answer: "Pass the hat."

NEWS FROM THE DANISHCHURCH

MEETINGS IN APRIL: Tuesday the 1st - Ansgar Men's Club (Danish) will see a film and make the last preparations for their great Dinner and Bingo at the Scandinavian Centre, Friday the 11th at 6:30 p.m. Have you remembered to get a ticket to the 11th? Only \$2.00.

Wednesday the 2nd - the Ladies' Aid are invited out to Pastor and Mrs. Filtenborg's, 10532 - 48th St. It will be an Easter meeting. - Ansgar Young People's Group will have their meetings on Tuesday the 8th and Tuesday the 22nd. All young people are welcome to join us. We begin at 7 p.m. - After the service Sunday the 13th we will again have lunch together. More and more people find it is a real good idea to have these luncheons. After the lunch we will see a film and sing some English hymns and songs to be more acquainted with them. - Tuesday the 15th there will again be a Bible study evening (Danish). The text will be Matt. 16. What is more important for a Christian than to know his Bible? At these evenings there is also time to ask the pastor questions. - Ungdomskredsen will on April 16th meet at Anders Jensen's place. A special invitation to all newer immigrants. The address is 10611 - 79th Ave. - Wednesday

the 23rd - Ansgar Women's Club will have their meeting. When no time or place has been given it is at 8 p.m. and in the church, 96th St. and 108A Ave.

A VERY FINE EVENING: March the 7th Ansgar Young Women's Club had made a feast for the blind people from CNIB in the basement of the Danish church. Of the 70 people who took part about 22 were blind. After a welcome from Mrs. Ahlefeldt, Pastor Filtenborg told about the Danish church and the Danish people. Hans Peter Carstensen played the guitar and sang some American folksongs; a group of teen-agers from Ansgar Young People's Group sang with one of them at the piano. After coffee was served with Danish pastry and home-made cakes, 12-year old Lawrence Day sang accompanied by his mother at the piano. Ole Knudsen read a novel and one of the blind, Ralf Carneau, played his accordion beginning with 'Wonderful, Wonderful Copenhagen'. It was a fine evening as confirmed by the blind people when we drove them home. A 'thank you' to the Women's Club; to all who helped make the delicious meal; to the entertainers and to all who helped to drive the blind people from CNIB to the church and back again.

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Edgewater, B.C.**ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER**

The first meeting of the newly installed executive was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gunnar Thorvaldson, under the leadership of President Gunnar Thorvaldson.

Many important items of business were discussed, and plans made for what we hope will be a very active and enjoyable year of fellowship for the Icelandic community. This was followed by a very interesting report by Past President Mr. Al Arnason on his trip to the convention of the Icelandic national league in Winnipeg in February. The meeting was adjourned, and a tasty lunch served by the hostess Shirly Thorvaldson.

* * *

Birthday greetings to Honorary Life members — Mrs. Valgerdur Nordal. Apr. 7 and Mr. Sigurjon Isfeld Apr. 25.

We wish you good health and happiness.

* * *

Congratulations to Peggy and Mylvan Gislason on the arrival of their daughter, Toni-Marie.

Mrs. L. Oddson was hostess at a surprise "Baby" shower for Mrs. Farrel (Elenor) daughter of Mrs. Ila Henrikson. Many of the early members will remember Elenor, as one of the pretty, little blonde Henrikson twins, who so often acted as flower girls and later princesses at the crowning of our Fjallkonan. At that time the crowning took place at our annual picnic in June at Victoria Park.

Mrs. W. Arason entertained at a Miscellaneous baby shower for Mrs. Don Shaw on March 7. There were many surprises in store for Mickey as well as for the many guests. A most delightful evening was enjoyed by all.

* * *

You are cordially invited to a Spring "Daffodil" Coffee Party at the Scandinavian Centre, in the Viking room on April 13, from 2 - 5 p.m. A variety of Scandinavian pastries and sandwiches will be served with tea and coffee, and you will be entertained during the afternoon by the Saga Singers and a film about the Arctic explorer, Vilhjalmar Stefansson.

As this is a Cultural Committee endeavor a large attendance is anticipated. The Icelandic Society will be convening, and we will be looking forward to greeting you there. See the ad in the Bulletin Board.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. J. Bjornson and wee daughter, Signy, were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sumarladason.

Mrs. Jose Janssen of Red Deer is spending a few days with her grand-children in Edmonton, while Vic and Kay are visiting Kay's mother Mrs. Clarke of Calgary.

* * *

Mrs. Rosa Benediktson has arrived in Vancouver from a holiday in Australia where she was visiting her son Steve and family. She will spend some time in Vancouver with relatives and friends and stop over

in Calgary and Edmonton before returning to her home in Red Deer.

* * *

Mrs. Martha Burr of Grande Prairie is visiting her cousin, Martha Arnason, of Edmonton. She will journey on to Calgary and into Saskatchewan before joining her husband in Vancouver where they plan on making their new home.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Leo. Gudmundson of Mission, B.C., stopped for a brief visit with Freda and Cam Smith of Edmonton, en route to visit their daughter and family Mr. and Mrs. G. Knolls of Dods.

* * *

Misses Dawn and Colleen Shaw took advantage of their holidays during the teacher's convention and spend 3 days visiting their aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Ian Lane of Calgary.

* * *

Mrs. Ingibjorg Alderdice of 9007-88 Ave., passed away Feb. 23 at the age of 81 yr. She is survived by her loving husband William, three daughters — Mrs. (Lillian) Wilkie, Edmonton. Mrs. (June) Fischer, Edmonton. Mrs. (Louise) Howard, Calgary. Two sons — Clifford of Fort Nelson, B.C. and Harold of Prince Rupert, B.C. Nine grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

A private funeral service was held in the Foster-McGarvey Funeral Chapel. Dr. E. J. Thompson officiated. Interment took place at Beachmount Cemetery.

Mrs. Alderdice was an Honorary Life Member of the Edmonton Ice-

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Date: Signature:

landic Society and a pioneer of Edmonton.

The Icelandic community extend their sincere sympathy to Mr. Alderdice and his family.

Report from the sick committee.

Mr. Fusi Arnfinson is a patient in the Col. Mewburn Hospital, and as his stay may be a rather lengthy one; he would appreciate visitors. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Greta Smith has returned home from a 2 week stay in hospital due to a serious illness. Our best wishes to you, Greta, for a quick return to good health.

Mrs. Carrie Wood has been on the sick list for the past two weeks suffering from an attack of the Hong Kong flu which developed into pneumonia. She is recovering satisfactorily at home. Our best wishes to you, Carrie for strength and good health.

The annual Sportsman Show will be held at the Jubilee Auditorium April 2-3-4-5. Doors open 6 to 11 p.m. Stage show 8 p.m.

Friday and Saturday matinee 12 to 5 p.m. Stage show 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Don Cameron is co-ordinating a display and demonstration of Rock and Gem Cutting and Polishing.

Participating clubs are:

The Edmonton Lapidary Clubs, I.O.F. Tumblewood Rock and Gem, The Gateway Rock Hounds.

Mrs. H. Sumarladason entertained at a bridal shower on February 22 in honour of Miss Pat Halldorsen. Lillian had her home gayly decorated in a Hawaiian fashion displaying many items of interest that she and Henry had collected during their recent holiday in Hawaii. A decorated basket of gifts were presented to Pat by Lillian and her many guests, after which a lovely lunch was served with Mrs. H. Halldorsen, mother of the bride to-be, pouring tea.

Mrs. Martha Arnason is your sick and visiting chairman. If you know of any member of the Icelandic Society who is in the hospital or ill, please let her know by phoning 455-7946. For a membership, call Mrs. Beulah Arason, 466-6659, and for news items phone your correspondent, Mrs. Margaret Cameron, 455-2064.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Arason and Beverly motored to Calgary, while there they visited friends and were guests of the Palliser Hotel.

Nordurjlos Sends Delegate

The Icelandic National League, with headquarters in Winnipeg, is the organization that represents the people of Icelandic origin in America, maintaining close ties with Iceland and its people.

The League is now in its fiftieth year as a functioning organization. Its accomplishments have been outstanding; the result of dedication and continuing efforts on the part of its members.

The purposes and objectives of the League have been to promote good citizenship among the Icelandic people and to encourage harmony and co-operation in our society. Knowledge of the Icelandic language and literature is encouraged. All efforts are made to retain the culture and traditions.

The organization consists of chapters, clubs and societies, autonomous in their activities, but generally in harmony with the objectives.

Each year the convention is held in Winnipeg. Delegates from Selkirk, Gimli, Lunder, Arborg, Morden, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Vancouver and North Dakota are in attendance for the three days.

This 1969 convention, being the fiftieth anniversary of the League, was very special. Representing the Government of Iceland was Johann Hafstein, Minister of Justice and of Ecclesiastical Affairs, accompanied by his wife, Ragnheiter. These charming people were present at the convention and attended the many social functions.

Many delegates arrived in Winnipeg Sunday afternoon, Feb. 23rd.

A special service was held in the First Lutheran Church with Reverend Eylands conducting the service. This was followed by lunch and coffee.

The following morning the convention formally began with the registration of delegates. I was warmly welcomed by the President, Reverend Philip Petursson and members of the executive. During the registration period, I was able to meet many of the delegates and visit with them.

The President addressed the convention welcoming the delegates and visitors, and reviewing the activities of the League and its hopes for the future. The Convention then proceeded with reports and other business.

Monday evening Frön, the Chapter from Winnipeg, provided a program that featured a talk by Haraldur Bessason, Professor at the University of Manitoba, and musical entertainment provided by many of its talented members. Lunch and coffee were served.

Tuesday morning, I was asked to report on our activities in Edmonton. Other reports followed. The new by-laws were discussed in detail.

That evening the Icelandic Canadian Club provided an excellent program with speeches and musical entertainment.

The next day, the convention selected officers for the following year.

continued on page 9

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BUFORD NEWS

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Eklund on the birth of a baby boy; handsome little James Murray weighed in at an even 10 lbs.

* * *

Four rinks from Buford Lodge participated in the Annual Curl-In sponsored by the Norstjarnan Lodge of Falun at the Usona Curling Rink. There was keen and friendly competition with all the prizes being captured by rinks from the hosting lodge. Buford Lodge sincerely thanks "Nordstjarnan" for their outstanding hospitality and eagerly look forward to going back next year.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. George Hood of Kelowna, B.C. were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Algot Pearson.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Sandstrom and Mr. and Mrs. Algot Pearson went on a U.G.G. sponsored tour of the Sherritt Gordon Fertilizer Plant and Mint at Fort Saskatchewan. The tour was followed by a banquet and later on they were treated to coffee and pastries at the Country Club.

* * *

Buford Lodge hosted the 1969 District 18 Curling Playdowns on Saturday, March 1, with two rinks from each lodge of Calgary, Falun, Edmonton and Buford participating. The District 18 Trophy was won by the all-man rink of Edmonton with Charlie Rautio—skip, Victor Semenuik—third, Ken Banks—second and Jim Johnson—lead. Hearty congratulations to Scandia Lodge and the winning foursome. In the evening the curlers and other lodge members enjoyed a banquet which was followed by dancing.

The following morning Mr. and Mrs. Clair Pearson entertained the Calgary curlers to a sumptuous breakfast prior to their departure for home.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Lindberg of Edmonton were week-end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Anthon Falk.

* * *

Miss Karen Pearson is enrolled in a three months training course for nurses at the Good Samaritan Auxiliary Hospital in Edmonton.

* * *

Congratulations to our teen agers in winning trophies in the Calmar High School mixed-open curling bonspiel recently. Among the winners were Elaine Pearson who won second prize in the Grand Challenge, Jo Ann Markstedt third prize in the first event and Jim Hamilton first in the third event.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Algot Pearson viistehir daughter, Mrs. Olive Davies and family at Fort Saskatchewan.

* * *

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our Annual Smorgasbord, which this year will be held on April 25.

CONVENTION continued—

I left the convention with a feeling of admiration for the people that make up this organization. The dedication and sincerity of this group is exceptional.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to those who welcomed me so cordially, and to our own group for asking me to represent them.

Albert Amason.

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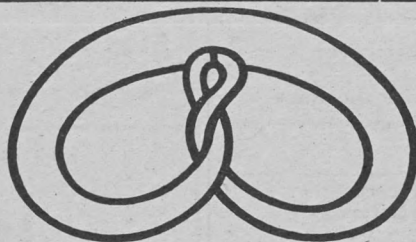
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